MINUTES ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD NOVEMBER 9, 2021 TRI COUNTY TECH BARTLESVILLE, OKLAHOMA

Official EQB Approved On February 18, 2022

Notice of Public Meeting – The Environmental Quality Board (Board) convened for a Regular Meeting at 10:00 a.m., at the Tri County Tech, 6101 Nowata Road, Bartlesville, Oklahoma. This meeting was held in accordance with 25 O.S. Section 311, with notice of the meeting given to the Secretary of State on November 4, 2020. The agenda was mailed to interested parties on October 29, 2021 and was posted at the DEQ and the facility on November 8, 2021. Dr. Tracy Hammon, Chair, called the meeting to order. Dr. Hammon talked on safety precautions in case of an emergency and welcomed Mr. Bennett Beard, Office of the Secretary of Energy & Environment and Mayor of Bartlesville, Dale Copeland to the meeting. Ms. Fields called roll and a quorum was confirmed.

MEMBERS PRESENT Richard Auer Mark Barton John Easton David Griesel Ken Hirshey Jimmy Kinder Steve Mason Tim Munson Billy Sims Tracy Hammon	DEQ STAFF PRESENT Scott Thompson, Executive Director Jimmy Givens, Deputy Executive Director Rob Singletary, Chief of Staff Michelle Wynn, Legislative Liaison Jennifer Boyle, General Counsel Kendal Stegmann, Air Quality Division Shellie Chard, Water Quality Division Erin Hatfield, Office of Communications Kathy Aebischer, Administrative Services Division Travis Couch, Environmental Complaints & Local Services Skylar McElhaney, Office of Continuous Improvement Jeremy McKinney, Environmental Complaints & Local Services Debbie Nichols, Environmental Complaints & Local Services Mark Bersche, Environmental Complaints & Local Services Travis Mensik, Environmental Complaints & Local Services Sharon Smith, Office of the Executive Director Quiana Fields, Board & Council Secretary
	Quiana Ficios, Board & Council Secretary

MEMBERS ABSENT

OTHERS PRESENT

Shannon Ferrell Alexie Kindrick Mike Paque Jennifer Lewis, Office of the Attorney General

Bennett Beard, Office of the Secretary of Energy & Environment

Dale Copeland, Mayor of Bartlesville

Deb Garver, Court Reporter

Approval of Minutes – Mr. Kinder moved to approve the Minutes of the September 14, 2021 Regular Meeting. Mr. Barton made the second.

	transcr		
Richard Auer	Yes	Jimmy Kinder	Yes
Mark Barton	Yes	Steve Mason	Yes
John Easton	Yes	Tim Munson	Yes
David Griesel	Yes	Billy Sims	Yes
Ken Hirshey	Yes	Tracy Hammon	Yes

Rulemaking – OAC 252:100 Air Pollution Control – Dr. Hammon called upon Ms. Laura Lodes, Chair of the Air Quality Advisory Council (AQAC), to present the air rules. Ms. Lodes stated that the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is proposing to update OAC 252:100, Appendix Q, Incorporation by Reference, to incorporate the latest changes to U.S. Environmental

Protection Agency (EPA) regulations. In addition, the Department is proposing to update language in Subchapter 2, Incorporation by Reference, to reflect the latest date of incorporation of EPA regulations in Appendix Q relating to the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) and New Source Performance Standards (NSPS). Following no questions or comments by the Board or the public, Dr. Hammon called for a motion. Mr. Griesel moved to approve and Mr. Mason made the second.

	transcr		
Richard Auer	Yes	Jimmy Kinder	Yes
Mark Barton	Yes	Steve Mason	Yes
John Easton	Yes	Tim Munson	Yes
David Griesel	Yes	Billy Sims	Yes
Ken Hirshey	Yes	Tracy Hammon	Yes

Ms. Lodes stated the Department is proposing to amend OAC 252:100-13, Open Burning, to conform the Department's rules to statutory changes enacted in the 2021 legislative session. Senate Bill 246 (2021) changes 27A Okla. Stat. (O.S.) § 2-5-130 to only require an air curtain incinerator (ACI) be used in counties or areas within a county that are or have been designated nonattainment or where an ambient air quality monitor has documented a violation of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), or those counties with a population of greater than 500,000. Following questions by the Board and none by the public, Dr. Hammon called for a motion. Mr. Sims moved to approve and Mr. Griesel made the second.

	transcri		
Richard Auer	Yes	Jimmy Kinder	Yes
Mark Barton	Yes	Steve Mason	Yes
John Easton	Yes	Tim Munson	Yes
David Griesel	Yes	Billy Sims	Yes
Ken Hirshey	Yes	Tracy Hammon	Yes

Ms. Lodes stated the Department is proposing to make revisions in Subchapters 8, 37 and 39 as part of the Department's review of Chapter 100 in response to Governor Stitt's Executive Order 2020-03. The Department is proposing to correct the rule and statute references in OAC 252:100-8-36.1 to the proper legal form. The Department is proposing to add an exemption to OAC 252:100-37-16(c) to formalize the Department's interpretation that natural gas compressor stations are not considered loading facilities for the purposes of this section. In OAC 252:100-39-45, the Department is proposing to correct the approval process for facilities that incinerate petroleum solvent dry cleaning filters and to remove the outdated compliance schedule. Following no questions or comments by the Board or the public, Dr. Hammon called for a motion. Mr. Hirshey moved to approve and Mr. Barton made the second.

	transcri		
Richard Auer	Yes	Jimmy Kinder	Yes
Mark Barton	Yes	Steve Mason	Yes
John Easton	Yes	Tim Munson	Yes
David Griesel	Yes	Billy Sims	Yes
Ken Hirshey	Yes	Tracy Hammon	Yes

Ms. Lodes stated that the Department is proposing to amend the source obligation provisions for facilities subject to prevention of significant deterioration (PSD) in OAC 252:100-8-36.2 to more closely align Oklahoma's rules with the EPA rules in 40 C.F.R. § 51.166 (r). This proposed rulemaking is in response to requests from industry to add the "reasonable possibility" provisions. Following no questions or comments by the Board or the public, Dr. Hammon called for a motion. Mr. Munson moved to approve and Mr. Griesel made the second.

	transcri		
Richard Auer	Yes	Jimmy Kinder	Yes
Mark Barton	Yes	Steve Mason	Yes
John Easton	Yes	Tim Munson	Yes
David Griesel	Yes	Billy Sims	Yes
Ken Hirshey	Yes	Tracy Hammon	Yes

Consideration of and Action on the Annual Environmental Quality Report – Dr. Hammon called upon Mr. Rob Singletary, Chief of State of the DEQ. Mr. Singletary gave a presentation on the Annual Environmental Quality Report which must be approved by the Board prior to its submission to the Governor, Speaker of the House and Senate President Pro Tempore by January 1. The purpose of this report is to outline DEQ's annual funding needs for providing environmental services within its jurisdiction, reflect any new federal mandates and summarize DEQ-recommended statutory changes. The Environmental Quality Board is authorized to review, amend (as necessary) and approve the report. Following questions by the Board and none by the public, Mr. Munson made a motion to approve the Annual Environmental Quality Report and Mr. Griesel made the second.

	transcri		
Richard Auer	Yes	Jimmy Kinder	Yes
Mark Barton	Yes	Steve Mason	Yes
John Easton	Yes	Tim Munson	Yes
David Griesel	Yes	Billy Sims	Yes
Ken Hirshey	Yes	Tracy Hammon	Yes

Executive Director's Report – Mr. Scott Thompson, Executive Director of the DEQ, discussed agency accomplishments and activities since the last Board meeting, as well as information pertaining to budgetary and/or legislative or related matters.

transcript pages 45 - 63

Budget Status Report (FY 2022) – Dr. Hammon called upon Ms. Kathy Aebischer, Chief Financial Officer of the DEQ. Ms. Aebischer gave a presentation on the FY 2022 budget update.

transcript pages 63 - 66

Employee Disclosures – Ms. Jennifer Boyle, General Counsel of the DEQ, stated the Environmental Quality Code requires DEQ employees involved in reviewing, issuing or enforcing permits to disclose financial interests they hold in entities regulated by the DEQ. The DEQ is required to submit these disclosures to the Board and make them part of the minutes. This is for informational purposes only and no action by the Board is required.

See transcript pages 66 - 67

New Business – Mr. Hirshey request to have an update on the electric charging station program. Ms. Stegmann will present information on electric charging at the next meeting.

transcript pages 67 - 69

Next Meeting – The next regular meeting is scheduled for February 18, 2022 in Oklahoma City, DEQ Multipurpose Room.

Adjournment – Dr. Hammon called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Griesel moved to adjourn and Mr. Munson made the second. Meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

	transcrij		
Mark Barton	Yes	Alexandria Kindrick	Yes
John Easton	Yes	Jan Kunze	Yes
Shannon Ferrell	Yes	Tim Munson	Yes
David Griesel	Yes	Mike Paque	Yes
Tracy Hammon	Yes	Jimmy Kinder	Yes

Public Forum – Ms. Patricia Sifuentes, NAACP Oklahoma, had concerns on economic development.

transcript pages 71 - 77

The transcript and sign-in sheet become an official part of these Minutes.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD MEETING
Tri County Tech

Bartlesville, Oklahoma

6101 Nowata Road

November 9, 2021

9:30 A.M.

* * * * *

REPORTED BY DEBRA GARVER, CSR, RPR

., _	9/2021		Pages 2.
1	Page 2 APPEARANCES		Page
2	Board Members:	1	PROCEEDINGS
3	Tracy Hammon, Chairperson	2	CHAIR HAMMON: The November 9th, 2021, regular
4	Richard Auer Perry Barton	3	meeting of the Environmental Quality Board has been
•	John Easton	4	called according to the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act,
5	Shannon Ferrell, absent	5	Section 311 of Title 25 of the Oklahoma Statutes.
6	David Griesel Kenneth Hirshey Jr.	6	Notice was filed with the Secretary of State on
•	James Kinder	7	November 4th, 2020. Agendas were mailed to interested
7	Alexandria Kindrick, absent	8	parties on October 29th, 2021, and were posted at the DEG
8	Steve Mason Tim Munson	9	and the facility on November 8th, 2021. Only matters
	Mike Paque, Vice Chairperson, absent	10	appearing on the posted agenda may be considered.
9	Billy Sims	11	If this meeting is continued or reconvened, we must
10 11	PRESENTERS:	12	announce today the date, time, and place of the continued
12	Laura Lodes, Chair, Air Quality Advisory Council	13	meeting, and the agenda for such continuation will remain
	Rob Singletary, DEQ Chief of Staff	14	
13	Scott Thompson, DEQ Executive Director Kathy Aebischer, DEQ Chief Financial Officer		the same as today's agenda.
14	Jennifer Boyle, DEQ General Counsel	15	So, first off, welcome to Bartlesville. It is a
15	Kendal Stegmann, DEQ Division Director, Air Quality	16	pleasure to have everyone in my own back yard. I have
16	ALSO PRESENT:	17	lived in Bartlesville since 2005, and it is always a
١7	Jennifer Lewis, Assistant Attorney General	18	treat to have the meeting of the board here.
18	Bennett Beard, Policy Analyst and Legislative Affairs at Oklahoma Secretary of Energy & Environment	19	I'd like to thank Tri County Tech, our current
19	Attains at Oktahoma Secretary of Energy & Environment	20	location, for their hospitality and hosting us this
	Dale Copeland, Mayor of Bartlesville	21	morning. Tri County Tech first opened its doors in 1968
20	* * * *	22	and serves high school and adult students with
22		23	specialized career training. And they have a beautiful
23		24	facility for us to be at today. So, thank you.
24 25		25	A little bit about Bartlesville. So Bartlesville
1	Page 4 was first incorporated in 1897 and was named after Jacob	1	Page there.
2	Bartles, who was a business owner in town, who owned a	2	We have no risk of bad weather today, but if we do
3	flour mill and a general store.	3	have a fire alarm go off, we'll proceed out the doors to
4	Also in 1897, the first commercial oil well in the	4	the parking lot.
5	state of Oklahoma was actually here in town, called the	5	
6		l	Another little bit of a safety moment. The deer are
_	Nellie Johnstone. There's actually a recreation of that	6	pretty active in town I've noticed this week, so do be
7	oil well at Johnstone Park in downtown. So if you get	7	careful driving. Where you see one deer, you will see
8	some time this afternoon, it's fun to go see.	8	many more.
9		1	•
	In 1917, Phillips Petroleum was founded, one of the	9	For the board members, if you do make a motion
10	largest employers in this town. Later became	9 10	•
		-	For the board members, if you do make a motion
11	largest employers in this town. Later became	10	For the board members, if you do make a motion today, I've been requested by our reporter that you say
11 12	largest employers in this town. Later became ConocoPhillips and, more recently, in 2012, split into	10 11	For the board members, if you do make a motion today, I've been requested by our reporter that you say your name, like "Hammon moves" or "Hammon second," so that they can track who has done that.
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1 1/0	13/2021		Pages 69
1	Page 6 MR. BARTON: Yes.	1	Page 7 Do I have a motion to approve?
2	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Easton.	2	MR. KINDER: Jimmy Kinder. I would so move we
3	MR. EASTON: Yes.	3	
4	MS. FIELDS: Dr. Farrell is absent.	4	approve the minutes as mailed. MR. BARTON: Barton second.
5	Mr. Griesel.	5	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
6	MR. GRIESEL: Yes.	-	CHAIR HAMMON: Thank you.
7		6	Quiana, could I have a roll call.
8	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Hirshey. MR. HIRSHEY: Here.	'	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Auer.
9	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Kinder.	8	MR. AUER: Yes.
10		9	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Barton.
	MR. KINDER: Yes. MS. FIELDS: MS. Kindrick is absent.	10	MR. BARTON: Yes.
11		11	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Easton.
12	Mr. Mason.	12	MR. EASTON: Yes.
13	MR. MASON: Yes.	13	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Griesel.
14	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Munson.	14	MR. GRIESEL: Yes.
15	MR. MUNSON: Yes.	15	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Hirshey.
16	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Paque is absent.	16	MR. HIRSHEY: Yes.
17	Mr. Sims.	17	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Kinder.
18	MR. SIMS: Here.	18	MR. KINDER: Yes.
19	MS. FIELDS: Dr. Hammon.	19	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Mason.
20	CHAIR HAMMON: Yes.	20	MR. MASON: Yes.
21	MS. FIELDS: We have a quorum.	21	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Munson.
22	CHAIR HAMMON: Thank you, Quiana.	22	MR. MUNSON: Yes.
23	All right. Our first item is the approval of the	23	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Sims.
24	minutes from the September 14th, 2021, regular meeting.	24	MR. SIMS: Yes.
25	Does anyone have comments or questions?	25	MS. FIELDS: Dr. Hammon.
	Page 8		Page 9
1	CHAIR HAMMON: Yes.	1	national emission standards for hazardous air pollutants,
2	MS. FIELDS: Motion passed.	2	as well as other referenced subparts.
3	CHAIR HAMMON: All right. Thank you.	3	Title 40, Code of Federal regulations incorporations
4	We will now move into the rulemaking session. We	4	by reference are updated annually in the DEQ air
5	have, looks like, four different items to approve. I'll	5	pollution control rules. The Oklahoma rules on
6	ask that we go through these one at a time. Make a	6	rulemaking dictate procedure for amending a rule appendix
7	motion on each after the presentation, but we will start	7	by revoking the old and creating an entirely new
8	with A.	8	appendix.
9	And I welcome Laura Lodes.	9	Notice of proposed rule changes was published in
10	MS. LODES: Madam Chair, members of the board,	10	"The Oklahoma Register" on September 15th, 2021. The
11	the Air Quality Division, as you said, has four different	11	department received no comments prior to or during the
12	action items for you today.	12	October 20th, 2021, Air Quality Advisory Council Meeting.
13	The first action item is OAC 252 Chapter 100,	13	The council unanimously approved the proposal at its
14	Subchapter 2, and Appendix Q, incorporation by reference.	14	October meeting. As chair of the Air Quality Advisory
15	The department is proposing to update language in	15	Council, I recommend that the board approve the proposed
16	Subchapter 2, incorporation by reference, to reflect the	16	Chapter 100-2 and Appendix Q revisions as permanent
17	new date of incorporation for Appendix Q, updated as of	17	rules.
18	June 30th, 2021.	18	Are there any questions?
19	This proposal is part of an annual update of	19	CHAIR HAMMON: Any questions from the board?
20	Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations incorporation by	20	Any questions from the room?
21	reference, Chapter 100. The purpose of the update to	21	Hearing none, do I have a motion?
22	OAC 252:100, Appendix Q, incorporation by reference, is	22	MR. GRIESEL: Moves approval.
23	to incorporate the latest change to EPA regulations.	23	MR. MASON: Second.
24	Included are changes or modifications to 40 CFR Part	24	CHAIR HAMMON: I have a motion and a second.
25	60, new source performance standards, and Part 63,	25	Quiana, roll call, please.
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Γ,	Page 10		Page 11
1	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Auer.	1	MR. GRIESEL: Yes.
2	MR. AUER: Yes.	2	MS. FIELDS: Thank you.
3	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Barton.	3	CHAIR HAMMON: Sorry, Dave.
4	MR. BARTON: Yes.	4	Now you may move on to Item B.
5	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Easton.	5	MS. LODES: Okay. Next item on today's agenda,
6	MR. EASTON: Yes.	6	Item B is Subchapter 13, Open Burning. The department is
7	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Hirshey.	7	proposing to amend OAC 252:100-13, Open Burning, to
8	MR. HIRSHEY: Yes.	8	confirm the department's rules to statutory changes
9	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Kinder.	9	enacted in the 2021 legislative session.
10	MR. KINDER: Yes.	10	Senate Bill 246 for 2021 changed 27A Oklahoma
11	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Mason.	11	Statute 2-5-130 to only require an air curtain
12	MR. MASON: Yes.	12	incinerator be used in counties or areas within a county
13	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Munson.	13	that are or have been designated non-attainment or where
14	MR. MUNSON: Yes.	14	an air quality monitor has documented a violation of the
15	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Sims.	15	national ambient air quality standards or those counties
16	MR. SIMS: Yes.	16	with a population of greater than 500,000.
17	MS. FIELDS: Dr. Hammon.	17	The gist of this rulemaking is to implement the
18	CHAIR HAMMON: Yes.	18	above-mentioned statutory changes to restrict the areas
19	MS. FIELDS: Motion passed.	19	where an air curtain incinerator is required for land
20	CHAIR HAMMON: Thank you.	20	clearing operations or the burning of clean wood waste or
21	We can move on to Item B.	21	yard brush.
22	THE WITNESS: The next item on today's	22	Notice of proposed rule changes was published via
23	agenda	23	"The Oklahoma Register" on September 15th, 2021. A
24	CHAIR HAMMON: Hold on, we're missing one.	24	written comment was received from the EPA prior to the
25	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Griesel, I missed	25	October 20th, 2021, Air Quality Advisory Council meeting.
1	Page 12 The comment requested the DEQ provide a	1	Page 13 just the county with a population greater than 500,000.
2	demonstration of how the rules meet the Clean Air Act	1 -	
		1 2	CHAID HAMMAN. Any other questions or comments
		2	CHAIR HAMMON: Any other questions or comments
3	Section 110(1), for ensuring attainment of the NAAQS.	3	from the board?
3 4	Section 110(1), for ensuring attainment of the NAAQS. This demonstration will be included in the State	3 4	from the board? MR. HIRSHEY: So does it define what "clean"
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1	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Easton.	1	statute references in OAC 252:100-8-36.1 to the proper
2	MR. EASTON: Yes.	2	legal form. The Department is proposing to add an
3	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Griesel.	3	exemption to OAC 252:100-37-16(c) to formalize the
4	MR. GRIESEL: Yes.	4	Department's interpretation that natural gas compressor
5	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Hirshey.	5	stations are not considered loading facilities for the
6	MR. HIRSHEY: Yes.	6	purposes of this section.
7	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Kinder.	7	In OAC 252:100-39-45, the Department is proposing to
8	MR. KINDER: Yes.	8	correct the approval process for facilities that
9	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Mason.	9	incinerate petroleum solvent dry cleaning filters and to
10	MR. MASON: Yes.	10	remove the outdated compliance schedule.
11	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Munson.	11	The gist of this rule proposal and the underlying
12	MR. MUNSON: Yes.	12	reason for the rulemaking is to remove outdated rule
13	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Sims.	13	language and/or provide regulatory clarity.
14	MR. SIMS: Yes.	14	Notice of the proposed rule change was published in
15	MS. FIELDS: Dr. Hammon.	15	"The Oklahoma Register" on May 3rd, 2021. The Department
16	CHAIR HAMMON: Yes.	16	received no comments prior to or during the June 16,
17	MS. FIELDS: Motion passed.	17	2021, Air Quality Advisory Council meeting. The Council
18	CHAIR HAMMON: All right. Thank you.	18	unanimously approved this proposal at its June meeting.
19	Laura, you may proceed with Item C.	19	As chair of the Air Quality Advisory Council, I
20	MS. LODES: Item C on today's agenda is	20	recommend that the Board adopt the proposed revisions to
21	Subchapters 8, 37, and 39. The Department is proposing	21	Chapter 100, Subchapter 8-36.1, Subchapter 37-16, and
22	to make revisions in Subchapters 8, 37, and 39 as part of	22	Subchapter 39-45 as permanent rules.
23	the Department's review of Chapter 100 in response to	23	CHAIR HAMMON: Thank you.
24	Governor Stitt's Executive Order 2020-03.	24	Any questions or comments from the board?
25	The Department is proposing to correct the rule and	25	Hearing none, questions or comments from the general
_	Page 16		Page 17
1	public?	1	MS. FIELDS: Dr. Hammon.
2	All right. Do I have a motion?	2	CHAIR HAMMON: Yes.
3	MR. HIRSHEY: Hirshey. Move that we accept as	3	MS. FIELDS: Motion passed.
4	noted.	4	CHAIR HAMMON: Okay. Thank you.
5	MR. BARTON: Barton second.	5	We will now move into the rulemaking Item D.
6	CHAIR HAMMON: I have a motion and a second.	6	MS. LODES: Item D, Subchapter 8, Permits for
7	Quiana, roll call, please.	7	Part 70 Sources and Major New Source Review Sources. The
8	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Auer. MR. AUER: Yes.	8	Department is also proposing to amend source obligation
9 10		9	provisions for facilities subject to prevention of
ı	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Barton.	10	significant deterioration in OAC 252:100-8-36.2 to more
11 12	MR. BARTON: Yes.	11	closely align with Oklahoma's rules with the U.S.
13	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Easton.	12	Environmental Protection Agency rules in 40 CFR Section
14	MR. EASTON: Yes. MS. FIELDS: Mr. Griesel.	13	51.166(r).
15	MR. GRIESEL: Yes.	14 15	This proposed rulemaking is in response to requests
16		l	from industry to add the "reasonable possibility"
17	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Hirshey. MR. HIRSHEY: Yes.	16	provision. The gist of the proposed rules and underlying
18	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Kinder.	17	reasons for the revisions are to make Oklahoma's PSD
19	MR. KINDER: Yes.	18	source obligation provisions more similar to EPA's
20	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Mason.	19	provisions, thereby reducing the recordkeeping burden on
21	MR. MASON: Yes.	20	Oklahoma's permitted facilities.
22		21	Notice of proposed rule changes was published in
23	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Munson. MR. MUNSON: Yes.	22	"The Oklahoma Register" on May 3rd of 2021. The
24	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Sims.	23	Department received one verbal comment during the
25	MR. SIMS: Yes.	24	June 16, 2021, Air Quality Advisory Council meeting.
43	rm. alra: 165.	25	The comment, made by a representative of Altamira,
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1	who originally requested the addition, was in support of	1	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Mason.
2	the rulemaking. The council unanimously approved the	2	MR. MASON: Yes.
3	proposal at its June meeting.	3	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Munson.
4	As chair of the Air Quality Advisory Council, I	4	MR. MUNSON: Yes.
5	recommend that the board adopt the proposed revisions to	5	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Sims.
6	Chapter 100, Subchapter 8-36.2 as permanent rules.	6	MR. SIMS: Yes.
7	CHAIR HAMMON: Thank you, Laura.	7	MS. FIELDS: Dr. Hammon.
8	Questions or comments from the board, please.	8	CHAIR HAMMON: Yes.
9	Any questions or commented from the general public?	9	MS. FIELDS: Motion passed.
10	Hearing none, do I have a motion?	10	CHAIR HAMMON: Thank you, Laura.
11	MR. MUNSON: Munson moves to approve.	11	MS. LODES: Thank you. Appreciate the hard
12	MR. EASTON: Easton seconds.	12	work.
13	CHAIR HAMMON: Quiana, can I have roll call.	13	Moving on to Item 6, I'd like to welcome Rob
14	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Auer.	14	Singletary to the podium. Rob is chief of staff for the
15	MR. AUER: Yes.	15	DEQ. Rob will give us the annual Environmental Quality
16	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Barton.	16	Report.
17	MR. BARTON: Yes.	17	MR. SINGLETARY: Madam Chair, members of the
18	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Easton.	18	board, good morning. For the record, my name is Rob
19	MR. EASTON: Yes.	19	Singletary, and I'm chief of staff here at the DEQ.
20	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Griesel.	20	As you probably recall, every year we are required
21	MR. GRIESEL: Yes.	21	as an agency to submit a copy of the Environmental
22	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Hirshey.	22	Quality Report to the Governor's office and to the
23	MR. HIRSHEY: Yes.	23	Legislature by January 1 of each year.
24	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Kinder.	24	So we typically try and bring a copy of that
25	MR. KINDER: Yes.	25	Environmental Quality Report to the board at the November
 	Page 20		Page 21
1	board meeting for you-all's consideration. So that's	1	to really be budgeting that, but Kathy Aebischer, when
2	what I'm going to be presenting today.	2	she provides her presentation later this morning, is
3	So the Environmental Quality Report is broken up	3	going to give us some information on the 2022 figures so
4	into three different segments. One is our budget	4	we can see how that's tracking and give us an idea of
5	request, which will really be just review of what we	5	where we stand in that regard.
6	covered during the last board meeting back on	6	That's really all I have on the request since we
7	September 14th.	7	talked about it in quite a bit of detail during the last
8	Then I'll go through some federal mandates that have	8	meeting. Please, if you have any questions, interrupt at
9	come through since the last Environmental Quality Report,	9	any time.
10	and then I'll talk about a couple of legislative	10	Federal mandates. Today I'm only going to talk
11	recommendations that the agency has.	11	about the federal mandates that have either been formally
12	First up, budget request. Again, during the	12	proposed or finalized since the last Environmental
13	September 14th DEQ meeting, the board authorized DEQ to	13	Quality Report.
14	request just over \$29 million, \$29,610,693, in	14	There's a lot of things we talked about last year
15	state-appropriated funds for Fiscal Year 2023. That's	15	that are kind of ongoing, and there's a heck of a lot of
16	says 2022, but it should be 2023.	16	activity at EPA headquarters right now of regulatory
17	That, of course, includes \$20 million to replace the	17	activities that are going to occur within the next year
18	much discussed DEQ parking garage. So if you subtract	18	or maybe the next two years. Some of those I'll just
19	out that \$20 million, the 9.6 million, approximately,	19	touch on really briefly.
20	that we requested in the state request, or the agency	20	We've got the WOTUS, Waters of the U.S., rule.
21	budget request, is consistent with what we requested last	21	EPA's indicated that they're going to be changing
22	year, which was just over \$9 million.	22	there may be changes to that. There's some discussion
23	Federal funding. The non-appropriated dollars that	23	about the 401 certification rule, which is also under the
24	we have federal funding and fee money that we receive	24	Clean Water Act. There's going to be some changes to
Lan	from services provided, it's way too early in the process	25	that.
25	trom services provided, it s way too early in the process	23	

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We anticipate a whole lot of changes in regard to PFAS, which I'll get into in a little bit more detail later on in the presentation, but that's all going to be coming in the next few years.

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There's also discussions about a new particulate matter, National Air Quality Standards, as well as possibly one they're going to revisit for ozones. There may be a new ozone standard we have to contend with as well.

And then, of course, we have the Affordable Clean Energy Rule replacement that EPA is kind of bantering about as well. So there's going to be a lot of activity. That's just a few of them. There's a whole lot of activity coming, but that'll be in next year's report.

So for this year I'm just going to talk about the things that we've got a formal proposal published in "Federal Register" or that have actually been finalized within the last year.

Rest assured we are tracking all of that other federal rulemaking that's going on. As appropriate, we try and remain involved in the development of those rulemakings and provide our comments and input as appropriate as the processes continue.

So first up is air quality. We talked about the potential change for a change in the ozone standard.

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Even without a change, we try and give you guys an update every year on just where we stand with the current ozone standard.

We've had a really good year, reduced emissions, but also a great weather pattern. So we've had very few exceedances during this compliance period, and all counties in Oklahoma remain designated as attainment, slash, unclassified, which is exactly what we want them to remain.

The next issue is regional haze. Those of you who've been around for a while probably remember the regional haze rule, published by EPA originally in 1999, requires the state submit state implementation plans to return all Class 1 areas in the country to national visibility conditions by the year 2064.

We have only one Class 1 federal area in Oklahoma, and it's the Wichita Mountains Wilderness area. We have a potential to impact other Class 1 areas from emissions in Oklahoma and other states, but the only one we have in Oklahoma is the Wichita Mountains.

We were required to originally submit a state implementation plan back in the early 2000s. One of the things you have to do is develop a long-term strategy for reducing emissions that impact visibility.

And, essentially, we have -- there's a glide path

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from emissions that were occurring in mid 2000s through what would be necessary in 2024 to get to national visibility conditions.

And just to really kind of boil it down, as long as you're on that glide path or that uniform rate of progress over the years to get to the right number by 2064, you're typically in pretty good shape.

But we're required to resubmit our state implementation plan and update it every ten years. So we're at that point now where we've had to put together another state implementation plan for regional haze.

The last one was very controversial. We developed a SIP, it was denied by EPA. There was a lawsuit that went to the Tenth Circuit. Ultimately, cert at the Supreme Court was requested and denied. Came back to the state. We were able to enter into a settlement agreement with all the parties; with the EPA, with regulated industry, with the environmental groups.

And out of that settlement, we submitted a revised state implementation plan for regional haze that was approved by EPA. We did it for two different tracts and both of them were approved.

So we don't anticipate this version of it being anywhere near this controversial because of switching from coal-fired generation to natural gas and a big part of deplete across the state because of the increase in renewable energy usage across the state.

We're in really good shape when it comes to that glad path I mentioned. So we don't anticipate this one being as controversial as long as EPA doesn't try and squeeze additional reductions out of the states, which, I guess, is always possible.

But where we are in the process right now is we've got that draft complete. We are in the consultation period with the tribes and the federal land managers, which is part of the process. That should be ending, I believe, this month, maybe next month.

Once that's complete, the draft plan will go out for public comment and we'll probably have a public hearing to receive comment as well as written comments during that period. And then, ultimately, that draft will be submitted to EPA for their consideration. So that's where we are on regional haze.

The methane rule, this is one also related to air quality that we've been watching. EPA Administrator Regan actually signed it November 1st, so last week. It's expected to be published in "The Federal Register" on the 15th of November, which would start the public comment period.

So it's so new we really haven't had a chance to

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1 dive into it and get a lot of the details out of it, but some of the things were expecting in it was some

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increased LDAR leak detection and repair requirements. Also, we anticipated that EPA would get rid of some of the exemptions that were in the existing rule.

6 There's exemptions for low-producing wells, but, anyway, 7 we're about to dive into what was released by EPA last week and evaluate that and see what kind of comments we 9 think are appropriate and get those filed.

But with the comment period anticipated to begin 11 November 15th, we wouldn't anticipate a final rule until sometime well into 2022.

The last item on the Air Quality list is startup, shutdown, and malfunction emissions. About a month ago EPA issued a guidance memorandum related to emissions that occur during startup, shutdowns, and malfunctions. A lot of times control technology isn't able to reduce those emissions so you have higher emissions during those periods.

The Trump administration had issued some guidance back in 2020 that allowed some of those technical challenges to be taken into consideration during those periods. That memorandum has officially been withdrawn now by the current administration, and they've reinstated the 2015 SSM policy that states that since they have

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permission for affirmative defenses for SSMs, that they're inconsistent with the Clean Air Act and, 3 therefore, they are not approvable. We're trying to figure out exactly what that means for us.

We have a SIP that's been submitted to EPA for approval that contains affirmative defenses, but it's many years old. EPA's got a step-back policy so we've not gotten to that to review it.

In the meantime, we've submitted the requested state implementation plan, which they haven't ruled on that either. And in the meantime we've got current rules that no longer have affirmative defenses in it even though that's what the SIP submittal that's hanging out there

Instead, we've got mitigation factors that we can consider. If you have emissions that are in excess of your limits during these periods, you can still be in violation, but it kind of mitigates the consequences resulting from that violation, depending on the factors and how they're satisfied.

It's not clear exactly how the current administration would interpret mitigating factors like that, so that's why I say we're not exactly sure how this policy change is going to impact us. But, again, that's another thing we're in the process of evaluating.

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So the next few items I'm going to mention are -they actually impact the Water Quality Division, the state lab, and the environmental complaints and local services division. And they're primarily dealing with water and wastewater issues.

First one, drinking water, the revised lead and copper rule. We're anticipating that this revised rule, a final rule, is going to be finalized in December of this year. It's expected to modify the sampling for erosion control, inventory placement, mandatory testing in schools, all those requirements.

And it's likely to be a significant burden on water supplies within the state. Associated with that would be an increased burden for DEQ staff in all of those divisions.

Also, related to drinking water, this an act -- the Water Infrastructure Act of 2010, obviously several years old. There's just a few things that are kind of carrying on. Lead testing in schools and daycares, this isn't actually mandated by the act, but it's optional.

And DEQ, along with -- I believe we're working with the Department of Education as well as the Secretary of Energy and Environment's office to do increased testing of gaps, water fountains in schools and daycares across the states. So that continues under this act.

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Also, as part of this act, community hot water systems that serve more than 3300 people are required to complete risk and resilience assessments and to develop an emergency response plan. So that requirement is still hanging out there.

Just a few more drinking water issues. EPA, I guess, really extended and updated a national compliance initiative where, essentially, they're wanting to increase compliance with the primary drinking water standards by 25 percent. That's going to require a lot of time from DEQ staff to provide sampling and technical assistance, especially in smaller systems, but that is an issue that's hanging out there.

Consumer Confidence Report rule. This is a rule that requires public water supplies to provide an annual report to their users talking about the quality of the water that they provide them, list out the violations that have occurred. Typically, it's been on an annual basis.

The WIIN Act a couple years ago increased that frequency from once a year to twice a year, so EPA is updating their rules to reflect that. And as they evaluate that or try and incorporate that change, they've also included or are considering several other changes, including requiring that those reports be translated into

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languages, primarily languages that are spoken within the
community.

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So I think there's some discussion about what the cutoff of the primary language is. Is it 10 percent of the population speaks it? 5 percent? 1 percent? But that's something that may be a change for our communities.

Also, posting that information to renters and tenants, not just the property owners, is another change. Tenants are going to be the ones consuming water, so that's probably a good change.

Providing reports to interested community organizations. Obviously, I'm sure those reports are all public record, but this allows the community organizations to actually request to be put on mailing lists and receive those.

We're looking at early -- early 2022 is when EPA says as far as when the proposed rules are going to be out.

Small community assistance program. This is a program -- EPA-funded program that is being implemented through our state lab in conjunction with Water Quality Division, and it's just another opportunity where we help provide technical assistance to small communities for sampling and compliance.

Page 32 national response, responding to the blooms somehow with a coordinated federal response. So that's really just more of an FYI. There's no mandate or requirement there.

This one will likely be a requirement. EPA is looking at some of their ELGs, or effluent liquidation guidelines. So they're reviewing four different categories. And what these are, for those of you not familiar, these are the effluent liquidation guidelines that essentially help inform our discharge permit limits for, like, an OBDS permit, water discharge permit. So they do have an impact on what we do.

The most significant of these four is to the PFAS manufacturing, so they're reviewing that and they'll be looking very hard at that. So that could necessitate a lot of changes in permits depending on what they come up with.

The next group is miscellaneous because it applies to multiple divisions. PFAS is something we've talked quite a bit about in the last few board meetings. There's definitely a lot of pressure building up from environmental groups, political pressure from Congress on EPA to establish standards related to PFAS.

We're talking about drinking water MCLs, wastewater discharge, biosolid groundwater cleanup levels, just standards across the board to address this growing issue.

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That last bullet point there, through some other federal funding the state lab was able to acquire a mobile laboratory, which will be great for emergency response-type issues, but also in this type situation we're talking about utilizing it to provide assistance to some of these small communities by being able to take that trailer with that lab, that equipment, out to the facilities or to the communities and doing some laboratory testing and teaching out there.

So that takes me to wastewater. This really isn't a federal mandate, but just more of a FYI. Our harmful algal blooms, which is something we're not immune to here in Oklahoma. We actually had a pretty rough start to the year this spring and this summer, but luckily, I guess, the conditions didn't exacerbate it. It didn't get as bad as we were fearing, but we do have issues with these harmful algal blooms across the state.

EPA -- OIG issued a report basically discussing the need for EPA to have an agency-wide strategic plan to address these kind of blooms throughout the country. The OIG determined that EPA failed on its 2015 commitment to address -- to come up with health advisories for cyanotoxins when they need to take further action.

Essentially, they recommended EPA's strategic action plan to describe how the agency is going to function in a

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As part of their process to address PFAS, EPA recently, a few weeks ago, issued their PFAS Strategic Roadmap, which lays out the agency's approach to addressing PFAS contamination and includes a bunch of timelines on how they're going to address through various statutes; Clean Drinking Water Act, the Clean Water Act.

Different venues, they've got kind of an orchestrated timeline as to how they're going to try and start issuing some regulatory requirements. They've already begun, but kind of their plan going forward.

Obviously, any action that comes out of this roadmap is going to require us, when we implement it, to have rulemaking or training that will be done internally and for the regulated community.

And there'll likely be additional laboratory equipment that will be necessary. We did recently acquire a very nice piece of laboratory equipment that's going to help analyze PFAS samples. So it's going to be up and running early next year, but there may be a need for more as these requirements continue to be developed.

Also in the PFAS front, EPA continues to develop analytical methods or approve analytical methods, and they have started to require -- for permits that they're issuing, storm water permits and EPS permits that are issued by EPA, that PFAS be monitored.

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And it is possible that they could try and require the state to require that monitoring as well. They haven't as of yet, but we're watching for that.

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some of our senior staff.

Also, as I mentioned ELGs, we're looking at the effluent liquidation guidelines for PFAS specifically.

And then, lastly, the unregulated contaminate monitoring Rule 5 has been published, and it actually requires public water supplies to monitor, starting in January of 2023 through 2025, for 29 different PFAS compounds.

The data that comes out of that is likely to be utilized to develop additional MCLs or additional standards that will have to eventually be met by those public water supplies.

The last federal mandate I'll mention is the Justice 40. This an initiative. It's not just EPA. It's across the federal government, and it applies to any program that has a loan or a grant component to it.

Really, the primary -- what it boils down to is that 40 percent of all the benefits from the funding that's received under these programs has to be received by an environmental justice community.

The real catch here is, what is an environmental 24 justice community? And that's what we're wrestling with right now. And Jennifer Boyle and other folks are

focused on trying to get their hands around that.

2 If rural Oklahoma counts as a environmental justice community, then, you know, that's great. We'll have 3 funding that can help with some of the infrastructure 5 needs there. We'll just have to wait and see how that works out. 6

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The first three pilot programs that this applies to -- clean water, state revolving funds, safe drinking water -- are under the Rural Development Program. So all of these, DEQ is either directly involved with or indirectly involved with. So it definitely impacts what we do as an agency across the state.

So that's it on the federal mandates. Any questions?

Yes, Mr. Mason.

MR. MASON: To total all this up, like the revised lead and copper rule is 12 to 13 more staff. Whatever comes out of American water infrastructure and this PFAS, we need like 40 to 50 more employees.

MR. SINGLETARY: Not just needing 40 more employees, but there's a lot of industry folks out there who've taking advantage of this infrastructure funding coming through and they're needing people to work in these fields as well, so they're looking at our staff. So it's not only needing additional employees, but

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maintaining or retaining the ones that we have.

MR. MASON: Within our budget, how could you afford 40, 50 new employees if all this happens?

MR. THOMPSON: Scott Thompson, executive 5 director. We can't. So some of the funding that comes from the federal government can be directed different ways and used for that purpose, but that's part of some of the stuff on -- Kathy may have more on some of the turnover we're having recently; essentially, folks --

It's very critical that we maintain the high quality 12 folks that we have to be able to process all these permit applications and changes and projects that will be coming in for review so that we can make sure the money is well spent and is actually going to achieve the end point of the folks who are spending the money or borrowing the money and getting grant need down. That's always the case.

We do have a good partnership with the Oklahoma Rural Water Association and we do a lot of projects with them, and they're out there working with some of these systems directly with tribes to try to facilitate as much good as we can.

And Secretary Wagner is working with a lot of folks trying to coordinate some efforts, but, you know, it

remains to be seen what EPA actually puts in place when a 1 lot of these things they're putting on the table, they

have not spoken to the specifics of exactly when that

will be implemented, how it will be done, because,

especially with PFAS, there's a lot of challenges in how 6 to possibly implement some of the things that they're 7 asking for.

And one thing we probably ought to do is -- I don't 9 know if we shared the letter -- the comment letter on 10 PFAS that we sent to EPA?

MR. SINGLETARY: We haven't shared those with the board, but I'd be happy to.

MR. THOMPSON: It's very similar to what EPA is doing because we were focused on what can EPA actually do, not can you just wish that PFAS didn't exist across the board, because there's thousands of compounds, and I'll go into that more later.

But, yeah, we -- we will definitely have some needs in terms of being able to do all the work. How that will be funded is not clear.

21 MR. KINDER: So all of these proposals, I 22 didn't hear you say anything about EPA maybe, you know, funding some of this. Has that been in the conversation 23 24 at all?

If the EPA on these proposals that, now, some of

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Page 38 this is going to be funded, or these mandates -- really, the cost of these mandates haven't really been talked 3 about federally?

MR. SINGLETARY: As far as I know, I believe that the way the EPA generally approaches it is they would expect states to essentially increase fees to allow them to manage their programs as appropriate.

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They don't realize the difficulties associated with that, so there's no -- there's no money that goes along with these additional mandates.

MR. KINDER: I believe the popular phrase is "unfunded mandates." Thank you.

MR. THOMPSON: I would clarify that a little 14 bit. There's the -- what do we call that? -- American Restoration Plan money that's out there. And then there's some infrastructure money that looks like it's coming. So there's going to be substantial funding there for the state and for tribes.

And so how that all gets spent and how we can use 20 some of that is kind of questionable. Some of the criteria that was put forth early made it look like it was going to be difficult to use. And, again, some of it's going to be how does EPA define what Justice 40 means.

I know Secretary Wagner has had discussions with

MR. SIMS: I live on the north edge of that Wichita Mountain Wildlife Preserve. That's a federal property, a game preserve, and they have programs in the spring where they burn a lot of that off. And, of course, we get a lot of that contamination.

And I think they do try to do a good job of picking the right weather conditions to do it, where it's not detrimental to the neighbors to the north, which we are, but sometimes they inundate us pretty severely.

MR. SINGLETARY: Particulate matter along with 11 PM NOX, those are pollutants of concern. They're the ones that impact visibility.

MR. SIMS: That is a federal facility. It's probably a little harder to deal with the control about some of those issues, I suppose.

MR. THOMPSON: Rob, you might speak on how pollution from other states could impact that and how the rules are -- or what limitations we have to deal with. Some of that's coming across the border.

MR. SINGLETARY: I think that's a great point, especially down there. There's a huge impact from North Texas and the air pollution generated down there just with prevailing winds and when we have visibility issues.

Conversely, they say we have potential to impact other states, but obviously emissions in Oklahoma are

Page 39 Administrator Regan at the EPA. He comes from a small

town in North Carolina, and so he's very sympathetic to

the fact that, you know, many of our communities that

need this environmental justice sort of help with

5 funding, et cetera, projects are small, rural, and

6 disadvantaged communities and especially economically

disadvantaged communities.

So I think it remains to be seen how much of that money can go where, but some of those funds are much broader than what DEQ addresses and are going to be used in a lot of other ways. So how much money is actually going to come to us to work on these projects is not

CHAIR HAMMON: Are there any other questions from the board?

MR. SIMS: Back to the air quality part of your report, the contamination from the Wichita Mountain area, what's the source of that contamination?

MR. SINGLETARY: Typically, there's -- the way the statute and the rule, I should say, EPA's rules and regulations define what subject sources are, the sources that are actually subject. Typically, it's going to be, you know, your power plants across the state have the most impact. Could be other facilities, but it's going to be large emitting facilities that are impacted.

Page 41 going to be much smaller than those in the Dallas

2 metroplex area. And we're actually impacted by Houston issues up here in Oklahoma as well.

So there are things that we -- there's nothing we 4 5 can do about. We can't control what's going on in these 6 other states, but it has the potential to impact 7 visibility here in Oklahoma and just air quality in 8 general. It's always been a contention between the 9 states.

10 CHAIR HAMMON: Questions from the board? 11 All right. Before Rob moves on to the legislative 12 recommendations, do we have any questions or comments 13 from the public?

(No response.)

CHAIR HAMMON: All right. Rob, I'll let you proceed to those legislative recommendations.

MR. SINGLETARY: So this year we have two legislative recommendations. One, again, is similar to our recommendation from last year, and that's a PFAS waste disposal bill.

What we're really concerned with there is ensuring that facilities that accept PFAS waste for disposal, that they have the capacity and the ability to actually appropriately destroy that or dispose of that PFAS appropriately. So we'd like to have some kind of

Page 42 Page 43 requirement that they make a demonstration that they can for DEQ to essentially permit a compliance plan through do that before they receive that PFAS designated waste. our discharge permitting process for water quality And then kind of one of the last bullet points there 3 3 standards. is related to another concern we have, that Oklahoma not 4 Right now there's a variance process in the water 5 become a dumping ground for PFAS generated in other 5 board's regulations that's available, but it's like a 6 states. 6 rulemaking process, it's very difficult to get through. 7 There are other states that are being very 7 What we'd like to do is have the authority, for θ aggressive at the state level in designating PFAS as situations where it would be appropriate, to -- say you 8 9 hazardous substances and, you know, kind of making it 9 have a facility that's got an existing permit that very difficult to dispose of that waste within their 10 they're operating under, it's time to get a renewal state. We don't want all that to come to Oklahoma and 11 11 permit, but the water quality standards have changed and 12 just get dumped in a subtitle D landfill or something. 12 are much stricter now, so they cannot at the current time 13 So one thing we were looking at as far as part of meet that standard, but they can reduce the amount of 14 the piece of legislation is to require that any waste pollutants that they're discharging. 14 that's generated from another state at the very least We'd like to be able to issue a permit that gave 15 16 maintain its classification that it had in the state of 16 them a phased-in compliance schedule so that we could 17 origin. increase the controls and reduce the amount of pollution 17 18 So if it's considered hazardous waste or required 18 going into the waterway but still give them time to get 19 some kind of special treatment in the state of origin, into compliance with the actual water quality standards. then that would come with it to Oklahoma so it would have 20 We'd like to have that as one of our tools for 21 to be treated appropriately once it got here, if it did 21 permitting, give us a little bit more flexibility with 22 come to Oklahoma. Those are the two big concerns there. 22 those facilities. Instead of having them operate under 23 Any questions on that one? 23 their existing permit indefinitely, give them that 24 The next one is related to water quality standards. 24 opportunity to potentially improve the watershed until 25 What we would be seeking in this bill would be authority 25 they can meet the water quality standards. Page 45 That's the end of my presentation, so ... 1 1 MR. EASTON: Yes. MR. THOMPSON: Rob, I'd like to add on to that 2 2 MS. FIELDS: Mr. Griesel. last one. That's based on some regulations that are 3 MR. GRIESEL: Yes. 4 available under law, so just taking advantage of existing MS. FIELDS: Mr. Hirshey. 5 5 MR. HIRSHEY: Yes. 6 MR. SINGLETARY: We're just asking that it be 6 MS. FIELDS: Mr. Kinder. 7 explicitly stated in our statute that we could do that, 7 MR. KINDER: Yes. exactly. 8 MS. FIELDS: Mr. Mason. 9 CHAIR HAMMON: Any questions or comments from 9 MR. MASON: Yes. 10 the board? 10 MS. FIELDS: Mr. Munson. 11 Questions or comments from the public? 11 MR. MUNSON: Yes. 12 At this point the Environmental Quality Board is 12 MS. FIELDS: Mr. Sims. 13 authorized to review or amend as necessary and/or 13 MR. SIMS: Yes. approve. So do I have an action? 14 MS. FIELDS: Dr. Hammon. 15 MR. MUNSON: Munson moves for approval. 15 CHAIR HAMMON: Yes. 16 CHAIR HAMMON: Do I have a second? 16 MS. FIELDS: Motion passed. 17 MR. GRIESEL: Griesel seconds. 17 CHAIR HAMMON: Thank you. CHAIR HAMMON: Thank you. 18 18 Thank you, Rob, for your presentation. 19 I have a motion for approval, and a second. 19 Next on the agenda, Item 7, is the executive 20 director's report, so I will ask Scott Thompson, our Quiana, could I get a roll call. 20 21 MS. FIELDS: Mr. Auer. 21 executive director, to present that. 22 MR. AUER: Yes. 22 MR. THOMPSON: I don't have a PowerPoint, so. 23 MS. FIELDS: Mr. Barton. All right. We have initiated rule reduction efforts 23 24 MR. BARTON: Yes. 24 and we began implementation of our five-year strategic 25 MS. FIELDS: Mr. Easton. plan, Leading The Way, in July of 2018. One of the tasks

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was to systematically review all the state statutes directly relevant to or implemented by the agency and just check to make sure whether any of the rules need clarification, streamlining, or elimination.

On February 20th of 2020, Governor Stitt issued an executive order, basically, to do that across the board for state agencies. So we started internal workgroups to review all of our rules.

We've been through historical attempts to update, 10 correct, and modify our rules in the past. So we had done this a couple of times, at least, so some of the low-hanging fruit was gone, but there's still some out there.

And these workgroups identified 153 DEQ rules that were either cost ineffective, duplicative, outdated, or unnecessary, so we have breakdowns of that. So four were too costly, 26 were negative, 29 are duplicative, and 88 are outdated. And 77 are completely unnecessary, probably don't make sense in today's world compared to whenever they were passed. Might have made a lot of sense then.

So as of September this year, we had amended or eliminated 22 subsections in one appendix and we're in the process of amending or eliminating four subsections. We're working with the legislature and stakeholders to

develop legislation to further reduce some of the unnecessary regulatory burden.

Now, one of the things that we've done through Secretary Wagner is make sure that the governor's office understands there's a limit to what we can change in our regulations because we adopt federal regulations and implement those.

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And we're one of the top states, I think, that adopts those very quickly, and so we can't change that, that federal component. We have to comply with that. So there's a -- the percentage of our rules that are available to change are much smaller than, say, some agency that doesn't implement federal regulations in the same way.

And so I think there's an understanding that we're trying to do what we can to make things make more sense, work better, but we're not going to necessarily achieve 25 percent across the board, especially since we've gone through them a couple of times over the years and done similar things to our rules.

So then we've talked about PFAS and the PFAS action plan. EPA came out recently with a response to a petition by the governor of New Mexico, which we also commented on, to make PFAS hazardous waste. And, you know, again, many of our comments are essentially similar

to EPA proceedings.

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It was a request to make all PFAS hazardous waste at once, which is not realistic. Again, there's thousands of these compounds. We're all probably wearing clothing that's stain resistant or fire retardant. On most of the materials in buildings like this, we try to make sure we don't die of smoke inhalation or from fire.

And so you know, we have to have things that will replace that effectively, and these things are out in products. And, generally, EPA regulates waste, not products.

EPA can affect products through Toxic Substance Control Act, which was one of our recommendations. That's the way to get stuff out of the product stream in the first place, so you can imagine.

But EPA's talking between passing a couple of water quality standards for drinking water, which, you know, that's fine. As they do that, we'll adopt those and implement those. Those are primarily for compounds that are not in use currently.

But there's -- EPA has issued a timeline for when they're going to undertake some of these standards and do things like that, but, unfortunately, again, they're pushing disposal guidelines and disposal technology to the end.

So they're not planning to come out with that until 2023, but they are going to pass standards this year or set up guidelines on how to manage this stuff, or for maybe drinking water systems or wastewater systems,

5 et cetera, to try to comply, although the actual 6 compliance schedules may be stretched years out.

But they have not vetted disposal, and so some of the disposal methods that are out there, we can't manage all the solid waste because there's got to be some grade of PFAS in almost any waste stream we have these days.

But we can target specific compounds that are the worst actors as we go through some of the intended regulation. So as that develops, we will work with them and adopt that. And we are getting the capacity to do some of that testing ourselves.

We also have been waiting on EPA to do the uncontaminated -- the next phase of uncontaminated -unregulated contaminate monitoring rule. We are introducing PFAS testing of bigger systems.

But I work on the Environmental Research Institute, so I meet with the EPA research folks at least couple times a year, sometimes more. The last couple years have mostly been virtual, so -- but we talked about a lot of stuff.

As of last year they were telling me they weren't

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clear on how people were talking about doing all this detection of PFAS in some of these dirtier media like wastewater sludges, et cetera. 3

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They're still working on clean drinking water testing, which is much easier to see at these extremely low levels that people are pushing. And that's part of the issue is the low parts-per-trillion detection limits we're trying to achieve are very difficult in the real world. And so, anyway, you could have a high potential for cross-contamination.

OSU is developing sampling methodologies for us based on clean sampling from a lot of other places, so we're going to put that out there. And it'll open your eyes, if you read that, to all the things you can't wear; you know, makeup, all the things we have to do to handle samples in the field, to move samples to a laboratory and get an accurate analysis.

And I'm sure that many of the earliest samples of this across the country were somewhat questionable at these low levels because much of the laboratory equipment or even your water purification system for your -- water had PFAS components in it. It's almost impossible.

A professor from OSU gave a speech or a talk the other day at the EFO conference, and he said that he believed, based on early data, a thousand (inaudible) was enough to break these compounds, which there's very few incinerators in the country that achieve that for a reasonable limit of 3 to 5 seconds or so to try to break these compounds.

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He said now that's looking like it's 1400 to 2500 (inaudible), which is the equivalent of melting a Sherman tank. So actual destruction of these compounds is going to be very, very difficult and extremely costly.

And so it really has to be staged in terms of how you can truly implement the kind of regulation and practical application, how can local governments possibly continue to operate and comply with the rules that come

And I think it's -- as things get real, EPA will modify their approach to not try to crash the whole system, so -- but it's going to be very challenging and it's going to take a long time to deal with this issue.

So as that develops, we'll keep you guys informed and put as much information out there as we can, and offer as much assistance to a lot of the local governments and systems and anybody who needs it with trying to understand what requirements exist and how to best to go about dealing with them.

In the meantime, I'm still going to try to support a bill limiting the disposal of certain high levels of PFAS

in facilities that probably really can't manage it, and to try to adapt responsibility on the generators so that

3 they have to sort of demonstrate to us that this 4 management is going to be effective before we're stuck

with it in Oklahoma forever and ever at some of our

facilities. So we'll see if we can get that through.

But the industry took note of it last year and so we got a lot of good interaction with some of the facilities calling us ahead of time and talking about waste streams that they make, that people are trying to send to them. Some of those waste streams get turned away, so that's good.

So, also, our state laboratory did manage to acquire a high-performance liquid chromatograph, triple quadrupole mass spectrometer. That's basically going to be used to analyze PFAS and support that UCMR 5 rule by EPA to try to start testing for PFAS in drinking water systems and see where we stand.

Again, the facilities in Oklahoma have done some testing, so we have some information. Most of their sources at major airports are sources from firefighting foams that were used.

The FAA still requires people to test with the foam frequently and fill up hangers with this foam, and then you have several feet of this stuff. And it's generally

just washed out of the hanger because what else can you

And so I think there's some high-level talk to try to get FAA to fix those rules, and I know in some places they're using water instead of foam, but some of those rules were probably written to favor foam manufacturers so they can continue to sell foam over and over and over, but anyhow.

So there's a lot of challenges there and testing for these compounds is going to take up quite a bit of time because we have to develop proficiency and then we have to be able to verify that laboratories that run it are circulating it right and their data is good.

And another item of Dr. (inaudible)'s presentation was how much of the data he's seen that people were paying substantial amounts of money for is really not very accurate.

If the lab is trying to do too many samples, too many (inaudible), those are very expensive. And if they skip a test or two, you can get a hot sample and you get a lot of false positives.

You could also get cross-contaminants from PFAS compounds that are not targeted, that might show up and sort of confuse the issue as to whether one is targeted, say, for a specific standard, if it's what you're

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actually seeing or not. And so this could create a lot of the cost for -- you know, especially for public systems out there trying to comply with these rules.

And so we're going to do our best to make sure that the data that we can generate, that the laboratories in Oklahoma are generating is high quality, so that we can make good decisions because we cannot make effective decisions with bad data and we'll cause lots of problems.

The lab should be congratulated for coming up -- in the water quality division for coming up with the funding initiative through the (inaudible) drinking water state water quality program. The cost of the instrument was \$400,000. So that's better than I was told it was going to be a couple years ago. And we didn't have to go out and try to get appropriation for that. So that was good.

So they've done a great job at getting that. They got some help from the State of New Mexico. I think the environmental secretary of New Mexico, through their assistance to our lab, is helping identify the best equipment to buy the quickest, so that was great.

And so, you know, OMES is starting something that has been tried in the past. It's a new effort of a similar nature that's called Performance-Informed Budgeting, an initiative by OMES to improve efficiency and effectiveness by linking funding for state programs

to results they deliver.

We have tried to track performance outcomes on, you know, things that we do and ways we spend money. And this a new way to do it, but historically we had too many performance measures, and the system that was originally created a few years back could only handle a few. So we had to pick a few and we've tried to keep tracking those.

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But I think this newer thing will be a little more robust, so the key is to try to get people to understand what's real, how to measure things that really make a difference, and explain it to folks instead of it being just jammed in sort a category that's not really clear and may or may not demonstrate actual progress or how much of an outcome you're having with that money.

But, you know, OMES is really trying to improve their processes and systems, and so we're very happy with the new management there in terms of really trying to make things work. So we're going to work with them very closely to try to make it an efficient program and demonstrate how much good we're doing out there with the funding.

Again, a parking garage update. We had another review by an engineer in mid October. Had to close 16 additional spaces. That makes 43 percent of the parking spaces in the garage are now closed off and not useable.

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And that, generally, if there's an area of concern, it's below, so that includes some of those. So we cannot use like 139 out of 324 spaces currently.

So we've leased some additional space from a church across the street and we're working on some issues and options there. Secretary Wagner is doing some talking about trying to help find a solution one way or the other on that, and so we're going to continue to visit with the legislature.

We had lots of work last year, we didn't quite get there in terms of trying to figure out a solution for this, but if it gets much worse, we'll be closing the garage and we will be telecommuting the vast majority of our staff.

Folks who can't telecommute -- lab, financial folks -- will be in the central office, but I'd much rather -- hopefully, when we get through Covid times, we'll go back to where, you know, most of our staff's in the building.

We're going to telework more than we ever have in the past routinely, but I still think it's much better for people to be together in person, especially for the younger staff to learn from the more experienced staff, et cetera, and to be able to serve the public better, but we'll see how that goes. And then it was mentioned that the turnover rate is very high. These days, because our staff are really good and highly valuable, people are willing to pay way more

than we can, but we're going to try to do what we can to fix some of that and to retain staff.

We'll probably visit with you about that next time. And some of those turnover rates that Kathy reported out were that, you know, in all of 2019 we had 48 folks either retire, leave, or whatever. We actually had a

couple deaths. And 2020 was 30 folks; 2021, 25.

Actually, that's fiscal year '20-'21. So fiscal year 2022 that started this July 1st, through October 20th we've already had 33 folks leave. So we've had roughly a year's worth of folks leave in three months or four months. And so it's not looking good from that standpoint.

Some of them are really key folks that we thought would be around. Some of these folks have turned down offers multiple times to the point where they just can't say no. So that could be a critical thing for us to continue to function as well as we can.

But so far I think we're doing okay still, but we're going to have to try to replace those folks and build up some expertise pretty fast so try to keep certain folks.

Anyways, that is all I have. I'll entertain

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2 CHAIR HAMMON: As a reminder, no action is 3 required by the board. This is information only.

If you have questions, please, go ahead.

MR. KINDER: Scott, Jimmy Kinder. You talked about PFAS labs. How many labs in Oklahoma that you're aware of besides ours that can test those, and is there some type of accreditation that goes with that?

I guess my point is that it sounds like there's a lot of possibility for bad data going out and getting false positives and maybe creating some problems that don't actually exist, and we should generate some legislation that doesn't exist.

And that's kind of the point of my question. What are we finding out in the community -- lab community about their ability to test for those chemicals?

MR. THOMPSON: Well, I don't think really we have anything from the lab, so I may not be able to speak on this, but I know there's one laboratory in Stillwater that can test for these and I think their data is pretty decent at this point. So that's all I know of.

Now, we are a member of NELAP, which is the national laboratory accrediting association. And, of course, we're accredited by EPA, who comes in, accredits our lab and makes sure it's good, et cetera.

facilities? 1

> Is there -- is it only when a complaint has been filed or is there any kind of recurring type, you know, observation, testing, sampling, you know, how the operations are currently, you know, dealing with their waste?

And looking at the field agents that are probably short, what's kind of going on in the state regarding that entire topic?

MR. THOMPSON: Well, we've gotten mainly complaints on cannabis facilities, a number of which aren't actually licensed and probably aren't selling their product in the state of Oklahoma, which is what they're supposed to do.

And so we've run into some really interesting issues, and some of our folks are pretty ornery and just won't leave until someone shows up who can actually deal with them. And so they've gotten some issues addressed at some of those where it's way too many people in a residential house because they bought a farm and built a bunch of grow houses and stuff.

In one case, they were tearing up the sewage lagoon 23 for the house so they could build a grow house on top of that. Our guy pretty much stopped them from doing that, said you can't do that because you have to keep -- you

Page 59 And through that NELAP, I believe that we can accredit laboratories for that, but, you know, the actual investigation, the analysis is done somewhere else other than our shop as far as, you know, sending a known sample, so.

But at this point I'm only aware of that one laboratory in Oklahoma that can actually do that, and I think they're just now getting down to detection limits. because detection limits for some of the earlier testing that was done several years back were higher than they are currently. But that will be developing.

And I'm sure laboratories are scrambling as hard as they can to get into this deal because it's going to be -- there's going to be a lot of demand and it's probably going to be pretty profitable.

MR. HIRSHEY: I do have an additional question. and if it can't be answered today, that's fine. The topic has to do with the report on staffing and also in regards to the increase in the cannabis facilities that are going out throughout the state.

I know that DEQ regulates waste and what's going on there, but I believe a couple years ago we passed some ruling on being able to burn disposal products.

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Is there any -- what's currently happening with regards to observation and inspection of these

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know, you have to manage your waste and et cetera.

And so he succeeded, but there's -- some of these places are on compounds and they're pretty scary. And law enforcement is looking at a lot of them. There's a lot of activity in that regard.

And then, you know, mostly the folks that are doing it are trying to do it right and legal, folks who'll offer assistance and advice, et cetera.

And I think our rule is based on the state statute that was passed about how to manage waste from these medical marijuana facilities. I think that only applied to waste of stems and leaves and stuff, but you could also compost out and help them figure out how to do that, which might be a better solution.

So there's probably a number of other options for any of those, like, processed materials. And there's a whole lot going on.

But there's a new director for Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Association, who we're familiar with and we have started dialoguing. So we think we're going to make a lot more progress with him in terms of getting rules, to coordinate with us and other agencies, like the Department of Agriculture and the gas commission, to reflect that some of these folks need to understand there may be rules they have to play by, especially the

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discharge of water, et cetera.

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So we're chasing a variety of complaints on solid waste, surface sewage-type stuff, discharges, et cetera. And so we're addressing the ones that we can.

CMMA is gearing up and hiring a lot more agents, and rules are going to have to be modified to get a better handle on some situations, but we're coordinating and intend to coordinate more closely with them.

So we've also spoke out on some legislative interim studies about the issues involved and gave some insights into it. And so I think the legislature is very concerned, and I believe that they have -- they intend to be much more proactive with some of their regulations 14 because this was going to be very small market, supposed to only be in Oklahoma, so it was going to be self-limited by the market itself, but that's not what's happening.

A lot of this material is being grown here and being smuggled to the coasts and sold. So I don't think that we'll solve this quickly. And, you know, if we have to add staff to manage more of this, to know who gives us what authority to do so, then we'll seek those funds somehow, because I think there's adequate funding coming in from the licensing now, and if they up the cost of those licenses, that may help with some of that as well.

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CHAIR HAMMON: Any other questions? All right. We'll move on to Agenda Item 8.

Budget status report, Kathy Aebischer. MS. AEBISCHER: Madame Chair, members of the

board, Kathy Aebischer, chief financial officer for DEQ.

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I'm going to update you on the current fiscal year budget status report for revenue collections through September 30th.

We have collected over \$20 million through September 30th, just over 50 percent of projections, a little more than last year. And SELS is about 87,000 less than last year, but that's in federal grants and that comes at different points of the year, so we're not really concerned with that at this point.

ECLS has collected -- continues to collect more than projections over the last couple years, which is good. So at this point they're 132 over last year.

Air is 353,000 -- 353,000 down if we compare it to last year, but they have reduced their projections this year 448, so their revenue continues to fall. And so we've kind of expected this at this point.

Water is 475,000 more than compared to last year. So, overall, no major concerns for revenue. It seems to be coming in as expected.

So if we look at the expenditures through

September 30th, we have expended just over 14 million, we have encumbered/committed to contracts of 61 million. We have 20 million remaining. The majority of that is 4 waiting on federal grants.

So if we look at our funding sources, appropriations, we did a carryover last year, and that's mainly the rural water funds that we're carrying over to this year.

And we have a balance of 33,000 of the lab equipment from two years ago. Due to COVID supply chain, that type thing, it's been hard to get in this equipment.

And then we have -- of our 9 million in general appropriations, we've expended 1.5. Revolving funds of 42 million, we've expended 8.6 million. And then other federal funds of 31 million, we've expended 4 million.

And as you see, that's -- most of the money that's remaining is federal grants we're waiting to be awarded at this point in the year. So we have a total of 20 million remaining waiting on federal grants.

This slide is just illustrating what Scott went over on the turnover. At the point of this slide, it was 34 left. As of today, I know of six more that are leaving by the end of the year. Three of them are retirements.

I think a lot of agencies and companies are dealing with this, so we're just trying to figure out ways to

Page 65 retain the employees we have today. And then also, on the recruitment side, I know that we're going to additional career fairs to kind of bring in and find qualified applicants to make sure they're aware of our agency.

So that's something that we're going to continue to monitor. If we go -- if we continue at this rate, we're expecting 110 to leave just this current fiscal year. So it'll be more than we've had in many, many years. So we'll keep you posted on that and we hope it slows down a little bit.

Do we have any questions?

MR. BARTON: Barton. Can you remind us of the total complement if fully staffed?

MS. AEBISCHER: Say that again?

MR. BARTON: Total complement if fully staffed?

MS. AEBISCHER: Oh, total number? About 536, I 18

think.

MR. KINDER: Kathy, Jimmy Kinder. Is there one division that's being -- that seems to be worse than others, I guess, as far as people leaving the industry, looking at one division a little harder than another, or just kind of a question about what kind of people are leaving as far as skills?

MS. AEBISCHER: I would say for the program

Page 66 Page 67 1 divisions, there's a lot leaving. Air has a lot. ECLS. general counsel. 2 Administration, we seem to be doing pretty decent, better 2 When I made the request for employee disclosures 3 than the other divisions. So I'd say it's mainly in the 3 this year -- as you know, all employees who have a program areas. potential financial interest in an entity regulated by 5 MR. THOMPSON: I would say the water programs, 5 the DEQ must disclose that interest to us. 6 very significantly. 6 When I made the first request this year, I got quite 7 MR. MASON: So, historically, does what we pay 7 a few interesting inquiries about interest in marijuana 8 the ED serve as a cap for what we can pay other θ businesses. But none of those actually did qualify. 9 employees? 9 None of them do qualify for permits for us right now. 10 With the fair but generous raise Scott got last 10 But we do have three that did gain financial meeting, are you pushing through raises with that 11 11 interests through inheritance, and one was with OG&E and 12 increase of his salary? 12 two other employees received shares in ConocoPhillips in 13 MR. THOMPSON: I would say we're working on particular but several other oil and gas interests. But 14 that as far as we can. And so, again, we'll have some that's it for this year. 14 15 more concrete news for you very soon. 15 Thanks. 16 MR. MASON: Push faster, sounds like. 16 CHAIR HAMMON: Thank you. 17 MR. THOMPSON: Well, we still can't compete, 17 Any questions from the board? but if we can make things better, then we may be able to 18 18 All right. Item number 10 is for new business. 19 have more retention, but we cannot compete with some of 19 Any matter not known about which could not have been 20 the numbers being thrown around out there. 20 reasonably foreseen prior to the posting of the agenda, I 21 CHAIR HAMMON: Any other questions? 21 do not know of any. 22 Thank you, Kathy. 22 Does anyone have an item that meets that description 23 Agenda Item Number 9 is employee disclosure, and 23 for today? that will be presented by Jennifer Boyle. 24 MR. HIRSHEY: I have one -- Hirshey -- and it 25 MS. BOYLE: Good morning. Jennifer Boyle, could be put on the agenda. I just kind of thought about this. It's been quite a while since we've had an update 1 very -- we're prominent in the EV charging. regarding the electric charging station program, that 2 MR. THOMPSON: I think we're behind California, 3 project. I know it was kind of under our quidance 3 and we're third. I can't remember how you cut those 4 because of the Volkswagen settlement funding. numbers, but we have some of that information available So maybe for next board meeting we could have just 5 and can get it to you. 6 an update on that? 6 MS. STEGMANN: We can get it to you. 7 MS. STEGMANN: Kendal Stegmann. I can speak to 7 MR. THOMPSON: So we can present that next that. We have some really good numbers. We've been 8 time. coordinating with the secretary's office. We're very MR. HIRSHEY: That would be great. As far as 9 9 high on the number of stations per capita in Oklahoma. 10 the schedules, where are we, percent, time frames, just 10 Yes, our VW program is very successful. We have 11 11 minor, that would be great. 12 about 90 individual chargers throughout the state. We MS. STEGMANN: Definitely. We'll have 12 have over 30 actual stations throughout the state. We 13 13 something for you next time. recently had a ribbon cutting at OCCC with one of our CHAIR HAMMON: Excellent. Thank you. 14 15 charging stations. 15 Congratulations on a successful program, and we look 16 We have also been doing a lot of work on our Onroad 16 forward to hearing more about it in the future. 17 Program and our school buses, but we are pushing forward 17 Any other new business items? and more people are applying every year. It's a very 18 18 All right. Hearing none, our next meeting will be 19 successful program. 19 held February 18th, 2022, back in Oklahoma City. Look 20 MR. THOMPSON: I would say we're -- I can't 20 forward to seeing you there at that time. And I 21 remember. We're in the top three in a couple different 21 understand that there are about a dozen rules already set ways in terms of the number of high -- fast-charging 22 up for the board to consider at that time, so that should 23 stations. 23 be a fairly busy meeting. 24 MS. STEGMANN: Correct. We have a charging 24 Once again, I have appreciated having everyone in station within 50 miles of each other. So Oklahoma is Bartlesville, and I hope you get some time this afternoon

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	Page 70		Page 71		
1	to enjoy the town. Make your way downtown, it's a lot	1	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Kinder.		
2	different from the construction you see on the highway.	2	MR. KINDER: Yes.		
3	It's a lovely downtown area.	3	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Mason.		
4	With that, I will adjourn the meeting for the	4	MR. MASON: Yes.		
5	November 9 Department of Environmental Quality.	5	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Munson.		
6	Oh, we do need a motion to adjourn, so we will work	6	MR. MUNSON: Yes.		
7	on adjourning the meeting. And following that, we'll	7	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Sims.		
8	conduct the public forum.	8	MR. SIMS: Yes.		
9	So do I have a motion to adjourn?	9	MS. FIELDS: Dr. Hammon.		
10	MR. GRIESEL: Griesel. So moved.	10	CHAIR HAMMON: Yes.		
11	CHAIR HAMMON: Thank you.	11	MS. FIELDS: Motion passed.		
12	A second?	12	CHAIR HAMMON: All right. We're adjourned.		
13	MR. MUNSON: Munson second.	13	Thank you to legal for keeping me on track here.		
14	CHAIR HAMMON: I have a motion and a second.	14	So we're going to move to the public forum session.		
15	Quiana, roll call, please.	15	I know we have at least one person signed up to speak.		
16	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Auer.	16	I'm going to go ahead and read the script for our public		
17	MR. AUER: Yes.	17	forum.		
18	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Barton.	18	PUBLIC FORUM		
19	MR. BARTON: Yes.	19	CHAIR HAMMON: Welcome to this public forum of		
20	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Easton.	20	the Environmental Quality Board. Public input is		
21	MR. EASTON: Yes.	21	valuable to the board and the department and we welcome		
22	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Griesel.	22	your participation.		
23	MR. GRIESEL: Yes.	23	If you desire to make comments at today's forum, but		
24	MS. FIELDS: Mr. Hirshey.	24	you did not sign the sheet on the information table when		
25	MR. HIRSHEY: Yes.	25	you came in, will you please raise your hand.		
1	Page 72 All right. We ask that you please try to limit your	1	Page 73 the chair of the political activism committee, and so		
2	comments to five minutes. I will advise you when five	2	this statement is on behalf of NAACP.		
3	minutes have passed, and I will ask you to complete your	3	On behalf of the Oklahoma State Conference for the		
4	presentation.	4	National Association for the Advancement of Colored		
5	The forum allows you to make suggestions or express	5	People, I come before you today with concerns on how		
6	concerns about environmental laws, rules, or policy.	6	environmental policies will affect low income households		
7	However, concerns with an action or decision in a	7	and everyone else in the state.		
8	specific case or matter, such as a particular permit	8	Our concerns come at a time when Oklahoma Natural		
9	application or enforcement case, should be communicated	9	Gas wants to charge residential customers as much as		
10	directly to the department. The board cannot and does	10	\$1,375 to switch from natural gas to all electric. We		
11	not intervene in those case-specific decisions.	11	have been made aware that the Oklahoma Environmental		
12	We also ask that you not use the forum to advertise	12	Quality Code requires the DEQ to prepare the Oklahoma		
13	or publicize commercial products or services. Because of	13	Environmental Quality report, which we discussed in this		
14	the nature of the issues that are appropriate for the	14	meeting.		
15	forum, you may not receive an immediate response to your	15	And we're calling on the department to also provide		
16	comments. The department staff and/or board generally	16	us, the NAACP, the same briefing and other related		
17	will need some time to evaluate comments and respond to	17	reports as well that are provided to the legislators in		
18	that.	18	our state.		
19	So at this time I have a Patricia Sifuentes.	19	The rapid changes of consumer behavior and the		
20	If you'd like to come up to the microphone, and if	20	pandemic and strong drive by world government towards a		
21	you could please restate your name and your affiliation.	21	low carbon future have caused a dramatic downward shift		
22	Thank you. We appreciate you being here today.	22	in expectations for jobs and oil demand over the next		
23	MS. SIFUENTES: My name is Patricia Sifuentes.	23	couple years, but what this really comes down to is the		
24	I am a student at Rose State College in Midwest City.	24	issue of the environment, and the most compelling		
25	And just this week I was nominated for the NAACP to be	25	argument is an economic one.		
		1			

Page 74 Page 75 According to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, transition its economy to ensure our citizens of the 1 Oklahoma ranks fourth in the nation for crude oil economic stability that they deserve here in the state. production, fourth in the nation for natural gas. And 3 Not only are we talking about dollars that will \$32.13 billion was added to Oklahoma's GDP just from simply cease to exist in the future, we must think about 4 mining, quarrying, and gas and oil industries. This is 5 the jobs that will be lost here. more than half. Our mission at the NAACP has always been to increase We must realize that the U.S. itself and the other participation among other branches; youth and college 7 leadership, parents, teachers, community leaders, with a Я countries in this world, and especially the G20 countries like they've mentioned in the summit, recognize the 9 platform to ensure political, educational, social, and 10 scientific merit of trying to transition our energy 10 economic quality of rights to all persons and to 11 source now to clean renewable energy to stay below the 11 eliminate race-based discrimination. 12 1.5-degree Celsius threshold. This is already having We are here calling on the Environmental Quality 12 13 economic consequences. 13 Board in your capacity to address the ever-growing The "New York Times" reported that the banking 14 14 climate crisis and to stop our state's inaction. Let industry is already shifting away from oil and gas. It 15 Oklahoma be the example of a renewable energy transition. 16 is becoming a very risky long-term investment. I, 16 Thank you. 17 myself, prefer to let Tesla make money for me. 17 CHAIR HAMMON: Thank you, Ms. Sifuentes. I 18 According to the IEA, International Energy 18 appreciate your speaking to the board and taking to the Association, in its Oil 2021 report, they said, and I time to be with us today. We appreciate your comments. 19 19 quote, world oil markets are rebalancing after the 20 MR. THOMPSON: Scott Thompson. So we'll get 20 COVID-19 crisis spurring an unprecedented collapse in 21 21 you any documentation that you want. That would be easy demand in 2020, but they may never return to normal. 22 22 to do. And I would say -- I don't know the numbers like Secretary Wagner, but I think we get up to 40 percent of We know and understand things are just simply not as 23 24 simple as stopping production of these resources; our energy from alternative sources. however, our concern is what exactly is Oklahoma doing to 25 25 Solar is increasing --MS. SIFUENTES: I believe it's 35 percent as of 1 our energy from wind. 2 2020. 2 And from my understanding -- and I'm not a geologist 3 MR. THOMPSON: Okay. And we export a lot of 3 by any means -- Oklahoma has much more wind capability that, so a lot of states that brag about their green than that. And to me it seems like Oklahoma is not only energy, it's really coming from Oklahoma. So we have a incentivizing -- not -- not trying to incentivize this 5 6 good mix right now. transition, but that is potential money that could be to And there's a big challenge to going alternative in everyone's benefit, especially the state. 7 MR. THOMPSON: Right. And DEQ has a very terms of how realistic it is and what the cost is going 8 to be to do so. As we get more and more electric limited role in our regulations. That sector, that's 9 vehicles out there, that's great, but it's also going to 10 10 really done through other agencies like the Corporation 11 put more and more demands on the grid, especially at 11 Commission in terms of utility rates and all that, and 12 night when you don't get a lot of wind or solar. 12 capital costs, et cetera. 13 So there's going to be a huge challenge there as 13 So we'd be happy to visit with you on that and get 14 battery technologies develop, et cetera, but I'd say 14 you information. We don't really control that sector. 15 Oklahoma is a leader in some of the alternative energy 15 We don't make decisions that influence that. We just right now. If you look at where we are in terms of how 16 address the regulations that apply to it as it develops. 17 high we're up, I think we're third in wind or something 17 CHAIR HAMMON: We do appreciate your comments 18 like that. 18 today. We thank you for being here. But, anyway, we can get you all that information and 19 Was there anyone else who wished to register to 20 we'd be happy to continue to supply you with any of that 20 speak with the board today? kind of documentation. 21 21 All right. With that, thank you all for attending. 22 MS. SIFUENTES: I think it's important to also 22 Please enjoy your time here in Bartlesville. 23 express that even though we're third in the nation for 23 Thank you for coming. 24 wind energy production, for our state that means we're 24 (End of proceedings at 11:10 a.m.) only talking about 35, maybe even at most 40 percent of

	Dan- 70	
1	STATE OF OKLAHOMA)	
2) SS:	
3	COUNTY OF OKLAHOMA)	
4		
5	CERTIFICATE	
6	I, DEBRA GARVER, a certified shorthand reporter	
7	within and for the State of Oklahoma, certify that the	
8	foregoing transcription of the DEPARTMENT OF	
9	ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD MEETING of November 9, 2021,	
10	at 9:30 a.m., at Tri County Tech, 6101 Nowata Road,	
11	Bartlesville, Oklahoma, was taken by me in stenotype and	
12	simultaneously transcribed by computer, and the foregoing	
13	is a true and correct transcript of said proceedings, and	
14	that I am not an attorney for or a relative of any party,	
15	or otherwise interested in this action.	
16	Witness my hand and seal of office, December 13,	
17	2021.	
18	A. G.	
	Dehra Gaover	
19	DEBRA GARVER, CSR, RPR	
	State of Oklahoma CSR# 1370	
20	Certificate exp. 12/31/2021	
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ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY **BOARD**

Attendance Record

November 9, 2021
Bartlesville, Oklahoma

NAME and/or AFFILIATION	Address and/or Phone and/or E-Mail
Dheana Fields	
Sharon Smith	DEQ
Kathy Aebischer	DEP
Trace Hamman	EQB
Jimmy Givens	DEQ
Scott Thompson	DEQ
Reb Sincletin	DEQ
Cross P.a.d	Bogy
Travis Mensile	DEO
Debbie Nichols	ODEQ
Jeremy Mc Kinney	OPEQ
Mark Bersche	ODEO
Ken History	DEQ Bont.
Cothey Gilling ham	City of Tulsa
3 Kylar nethona	1568
Erin Hatfield	DEQ
Denniser Popule	DEQ
Michelle Wynn	TEQ
Ericlee U	City of TWISA
Steve Wason	tar
Bennett Bland	DIEE
Senniter Lawis,	DAF
MARK Basta	EUB
Bill Sum	
Som for Kircle	DE Q Bord EQB
Coly Cason	FQB



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY **BOARD**

Attendance Record

November 9, 2021
Bartlesville, Oklahoma

NAME and/or AFFILIATION		Address and/or Phone and/or E-Mail	
Iravis Couch 1	DEQ	405-702-7131	
Patricia Sifuente	S NAACP	405-905-9391	115 74.00
TIM MUNSON	500	405 343 -0420	
Java Codes	AQC	405-919-4129	
Dave Coromo	HWMAC	918-331-7902	
Lendal Scamow	(EQ		- 100
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